



Photo. *Crocodylus palustris* (adult male).

important population that deserves more attention and management as a natural gene pool for this rapidly dwindling reptile.

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ANN JOSEPH  
EKLAVYA CHAUHAN  
KUSHAL KHANNA  
R. WHITAKER

MADRAS SNAKE PARK TRUST,  
MADRAS 600 022,  
December 3, 1974.

#### 19. FURTHER ADDITIONS TO THE FISH FAUNA OF THE CHILKA LAKE

A list of the fish fauna of the Chilka lake numbering 118 given by Hora (1923). Jones & Sujansinghani (1954) considered only 112 as valid species out of the 118 species listed by Hora as six were synonyms of recorded species. Koumans (1941) added one Gobiid fish from the lake, thus bringing the number to 113. Jones & Sujansinghani (op. cit.) presented 25 new records, raising the total number of species recorded from the lake to 138. Later Roy & Sahoo (1957) added 14 more species, bringing the total to 152.

We recorded the following eight additional species from the Chilka lake while operating gill nets in the outer channel, inspecting catches

from mass fishing ('Kotha Bahani') near the lake mouth and studying fish landing composition in the Chilka lake during 1972-73.

The fish collection reported in this note was made during May-November, 1972 and December, 1972-January, 1973. The first three species are fresh-water in origin and others marine forms.

Family CLARIIDAE  
**Clarias batrachus** (Linn.)

This mud dwelling fish was found in catches from Bhusandapur-Kaluparaghat area and along Balugan shore during the months of May to July, and was caught in appreciable quantities from the shallow mud flats of the lake near Kaluparaghat during June, 1972. Size range of 146 to 245 mm. Local name: *Magura*.

Family CYPRINIDAE  
**Labio calbasu** (Ham.)

Three of the Indian major carps (*Labio rohita*, *Catla catla* and *Cirrhina mrigala*) were earlier recorded from the Chilka lake (Jones & Sujansinghani, op. cit.; Roy & Sahoo, op. cit.). This major carp (*Kalabainshi*) was found in the catches from the northern sector of the lake in the vicinity of the river Daya during the months of June to September. It is probably brought in by the monsoon floods. The species is capable of tolerating certain degree of salinity. The largest specimen observed at Kaluparaghat was 287 mm.

Family NOTOPTERIDAE  
**Notopterus chitala** (Ham.)

Stray catches of this species were observed during the monsoon months near Kaluparaghat and in the vicinity of the river Daya in the northern sector of the lake. A few specimens observed in the fish landings at Kaluparaghat during August, 1972 were in the size range 110-157 mm. These juveniles were perhaps brought into the lake by the flooded rivers. Local name: *Chitala*.

Family CARANGIDAE  
**Caranx gallus** (Linn.)

This fish was observed in the mass fishing ('Kotha bahani') catches of the 'Nolia' fishermen in outer channel near the lake mouth during the winter months. This marine species is probably a stray visitor from the sea and its distribution in the outer channel extended up to Mirjapur according to the fishermen. It is sold in the miscellaneous group of

fishes. The average size of 4 specimens collected was 127 mm. Local name: *Jhanjara*.

***Caranx leptolepis* (Cuv. & Val.)**

A number of specimens of this species were collected from mass fishing catches from the outer channel near Kalabanta. It does not form a fishery in the lake and is sold under miscellaneous group of fishes. The average size of the collected specimens was 153 mm. Local name: *Kanti*.

***Caranx gymnostethoides* (Blkr.)**

Three specimens of this species were collected from the mass fishing by 'Nolia' fishermen near the lake mouth in the outer channel during January, 1973. Its catch was insignificant and rare. Local name: *Kanti*.

Family LEIIGNATHIDAE

***Equulia splendens* (Russell)**

This marine species was found in *Khadijal* catches near Arakhakuda in the outer channel but its catch was insignificant. The specimen was also collected from the *Khadijal* catch near Keshpur which was a rare occurrence along the western shore of the lake. The specimens observed in the outer channel ranged in size from 63 to 84 mm. Local name: *Karachandi*

Family URANOSCOPIDAE

***Ichthyscopus inerme* (Swainson)**

Five specimens of this species were caught in the gill net in the outer channel near the lake mouth and at Arkhakuda during January, 1973. It is a marine species and rare in the lake catches. As reported by the local fishermen, the species is not found in the upper reaches of the outer channel where salinity is comparatively low. The collected specimens were in the size range 182-288 mm. Local name: *Balighumara*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to Dr. P. M. Misra, Director of Fisheries, Orissa for his kind permission to publish this note and to Shri K. C. Pati, Assistant Director of Fisheries for his help in this study.

CHILKA BIOLOGICAL STATION,  
BALUGAON,  
ORISSA,  
October 30, 1973.

S. K. MOHANTY

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## 20. NEW RECORDS OF PRAWNS FROM LAKE PULICAT WITH NOTES ON THEIR DISTRIBUTION

Lake Pulicat is a marine fauna dominated brackish water system on the east coast of India. It is one of the chief sources of fish supply to Madras City (Moses 1923). A preliminary survey of the flora, fauna and fisheries of the Lake Pulicat was made by Chacko *et al.* during the years 1951-52. This note deals with additional records of prawns from Lake Pulicat.

Altogether 23 species were recorded during the years 1966-68 are listed.

## Family PENAEIDAE

1. *Penaeus indicus* M. Edw.
2. *P. monodon* Fabricius
3. *P. semisulcatus* de Haan
4. *P. japonicus* Bate
5. *P. merguensis* de Man
6. *Metapenaeus monoceros* (Fabricius)
7. *M. dobsoni* (Miers)
8. *M. brevicornis* (M. Edw.)
9. *M. affinis* (M. Edw.)
10. *M. burkenroadi* Kubo
11. *Metapenaeopsis stridulans* (Alcock)
12. *Parapenaeopsis nana* (Alcock)
13. *P. cornuta maxillipedo* Alcock

## Family SERGESTIDAE

14. *Acetes erythraeus* Nobili

## Family PALAEMONIDAE

15. *Macrobrachium rude* (Heller)
16. *M. scabriculum* (Heller)
17. *M. malcolmsoni* (M. Edw.)
18. *M. lamarrei* (M. Edw.)
19. *Periclimenes indicus* Kemp